GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2668
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2015
Survey on Drug Abuse
Karandlaje Km. Shobha

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any Advanced Pilot Survey on the extent, pattern and trends of Drug Abuse in the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Maharashtra, Manipur and Punjab;

(b) the name of organizations entrusted the task and the likely time for submission of survey report;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to carry out survey for street children and homeless and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Ministry proposes to conduct a more comprehensive and extended Pilot Survey to cover some more States and if so, the details thereof, Statewise; and

(e) whether the National Statistical Commission (NSC) has observed that the proposed Advanced Pilot Survey may not serve the purpose as the present methodology and the sampling design is not likely to give accurate result and if so, the corrective steps taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)
(a) & (b): The Ministry has requested National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) to conduct a nationwide survey on extent, pattern and trend of alcohol and drug abuse. Accordingly, the NSSO had conducted a pilot survey in the cities of Amritsar, Imphal and Mumbai in March-April 2010. The report of the Pilot survey was received from NSSO on 05.1.2011. On examination of the report of the Pilot Survey, certain issues relating to under estimation, non-coverage of certain age groups etc.
(c): There is no proposal under consideration in the Ministry to carry out survey for street children and homeless. However, the Ministry has financially supported the Directorate of Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention, Department of Women & Child Development, Govt. of NCT of Delhi for conducting a survey on mapping and size estimation of street children who use drugs in Delhi.
(d) & (e): The National Statistical Commission (NSC) in its meeting held on 6.9.2013 has observed that no purpose would be served by conducting the proposed Advanced Pilot Survey and suggested that the methodology and the sampling design may be looked afresh. Therefore, a Working Group was constituted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, with NSSO as nodal organization to devise the modalities of advanced pilot survey in the State of Punjab and Manipur. The report of the Working Group has been received. However, the Ministry of Statistics and programme Implementation has informed that the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment can conduct the survey through the help of NGOs on the pattern of earlier pilot survey done in the year 2010. The NSSO would provide all the necessary support if required.